

DO NOT ENTER: /LARD/ (05/17/2011)

**Proposed claim amendments for US Appln. Ser. No. 10/692,191**

126. (previously presented) A method for increasing elastin content in a region of skin of a subject, the method comprising applying topically a composition consisting essentially of one or more zinc-containing components in admixture with a dermatologically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, in an elastin-increasing effective amount, to the region of skin of the subject,

wherein the one or more zinc-containing components is selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, ascorbate, aspartate, butyrate, caproate, caprylate, carbonate, chromate, citraconate, citramalate, citrate, EDTA, formate, fumarate, gallate, gluconate, halides, iodate, lactate, laurate, laureate, malate, maleate, malonate, metaphosphate, methanesulfonate, monophosphate, myristate, nitrate, octoate, oleate, orotate, orthophosphate, oxalate, palmitate, permanganate, phenolsulfonate, phosphate, picolinate, propionate, pyrophosphate, salicylate, selenate, stearate, succinate, sulfate, sulfonate, tartrate, tetrametaphosphate, titanate, transferrin, tripolyphosphate, undecylate, valerate, zinc amino acid complexes, zinc nucleotide complexes, and mixtures thereof,

wherein zinc is present in the composition at a concentration that increases elastin without causing epidermal sloughing and irritation due to zinc, and

wherein the elastin content in the region of skin is increased in a sufficient amount to treat wrinkles.